

STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST

“Public Officials” covered by the Governor’s **Executive Order on ethics** must perform their official duties in a manner to promote the best interests of the public. Public Officials may not knowingly use their position in any manner which will result in a financial benefit, direct or indirect, to the Public Official, the Official’s family, or an individual with whom or business, organization, or group with which the Public Official is associated. See Section 7 of the Order.

The information requested in the required **Statement of Economic Interest** (“SEI”) is intended to assist covered Public Officials and those that appoint, hire, or evaluate them in identifying situations or relationships which can either cause or appear to cause a conflict between the Official’s public duties and his or her private interests. It is intended to determine whether a Public Official is in a *position* to impact his or her financial, familial, or personal interest through public decision-making or official action. Many situations or relationships will be identified that constitute a **potential** conflict of interest. *This is normal and expected in many cases.* It does **not** mean that the Official has a disqualifying conflict of interest. It does **not** mean that the Official is “unethical.” It **does** mean that the Official must be careful not to let the “potential” conflict develop into an actual conflict. Helping Public Officials recognize and address potential conflicts of interest is a major goal of the financial disclosure and evaluation process.

There are two kinds of filers under the Order: (1) “**new**” filers/**Public Officials** who have *never filed* a full and complete Statement of Economic Interest required by the Order, and (2) **currently-serving** appointees, employees, or Public Officials who have *already filed* a full and complete SEI under the Order and are updating their statements for the new filing year. The type of form you use depends on which type of filer you are.

All **new filers** (those who have never filed a full and complete SEI under the current Order) **MUST** submit a full and complete SEI (“Long Form”), answering each question, even if the answer is “none”. All **returning filers** who have *already submitted* a full and complete Long Form for the previous filing year have two main options:

- (1) if they do **NOT** have any material changes to report, they may submit the one-page “**No-Change**” form (“**Short Form**”); **OR**
- (2) if they **DO** have material changes to report, they may indicate such changes on a “**Supplemental Statement of Economic Interest.**” Supplemental filers need only provide information or responses to questions where there have been changes – they do *not* have to complete the entire form again unless they want to. *If you prefer to file a completely new SEI “Long Form” answering each question, please so indicate on the form, and it will supersede all prior forms.*

Public Officials need only file ONE type of form for the filing year – the forms are mutually exclusive. Whichever form is used **MUST** be notarized. If you have any questions about which type of form you should use, please contact Board of Ethics staff for assistance.

You should carefully read the current ethics Order in general and Section 7 in particular before completing the appropriate form. If you have any questions or need any help in filling out this form, please contact the Board of Ethics at (919) 733-2780.

When the Order asks you to list assets and liabilities with a value of \$10,000 or more for yourself and your spouse, you are **NOT** required to include an estimated value of the assets and liabilities. The intent is not to establish net worth, but rather to identify relevant assets and liabilities.

NOTE: In answering all questions, the term “board” or “boards” includes any and all “boards,” “commissions,” “councils,” “committees,” “task forces,” “authorities,” or similar public bodies upon which Public Officials serve, however denominated, and will be referred to in these disclosure forms simply as “board” or “boards,” as the context may require.